

# TRANSFORMING THE TAR HEEL STATE

## THE LEGACY OF PUBLIC LIBRARIES IN NORTH CAROLINA

### Historical Facts about the Davidson County Public Library System

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#### Library Established

1928.

#### Notable Librarians

Lily Moore (at the Lexington Branch) and Millie J. Crowell (at the Thomasville Branch) were the first librarians in the system. They both started working at their respective libraries in 1928. Mary Lee Crouse was also a librarian of note. She worked at the Thomasville Library from 1936-1992, serving as a librarian for 40 years.

#### First Bookmobile

Davidson County's first bookmobile was established in 1929. It was a Chevrolet Truck with specially designed and constructed outside shelves that were enclosed in glass. The capacity was 600 books. It was funded by Davidson County and by the Julius Rosenwald Foundation.

#### Important Facts

In 1928, the Lexington and Thomasville libraries opened with a total budget of \$7,000 derived from county and city revenues. Davidson was later (1929?) one of only two North Carolina counties to receive funds from the Julius Rosenwald Foundation to provide library services to the entire county. This grant made Davidson County the first county in the South extending library service to all citizens including African Americans.